

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUXEMB 00570 270607Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
/066 W

-----004287 271102Z /13

R 270501Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6427  
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
EC COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUXEMBOURG 0570

USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PERP LU GE  
SUBJECT: GDR FOREIGN MINISTER VISIT TO LUXEMBOURG

1. ON MAY 18 AND 19 MR. OSKAR FISCHER, GDR FOREIGN MINISTER, MADE AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO LUXEMBOURG. HE WAS RECEIVED BY THE GRAND DUKE, HAD AN HOUR AND HALF PRIVATE MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER GASTON THORN AND WAS THE GUEST OF HONOR AT A STATE DINNER ATTENDED BY ALL SENIOR GOL OFFICIALS. THE SECOND DAY OF HIS VISIT WAS SPENT LARGELY IN SIGHTSEEING ALONG THE MOSELLE RIVER. THE VISIT WAS A RETURN OF THEN FOREIGN MINISTER GASTON THORN'S VISIT TO THE GDR IN 1975.

2. MFA POLITICAL DIRECTOR PAUL MERTZ TOLD US THAT ALMOST NOTHING OF SUBSTANCE WAS DISCUSSED DURING THE VISIT. FISCHER TOOK PREDICTABLE BUT EVEN TOUGHER THAN EXPECTED LINES ON EAST-WEST ISSUES AND CSCE. ALTHOUGH ONE OUTSTANDING HUMAN RIGHTS CASE INVOLVING A LUXEMBOURG CITIZEN IN THE GDR WAS RESOLVED, FISCHER

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WAS PARTICULARLY ADAMANT IN DESCRIBING HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES AS STRICTLY INTERNAL QUESTIONS, ACCORDING TO MERTZ.

3. MERTZ SAID THERE WAS SOME DESULTORY DISCUSSION ABOUT LUXEMBOURG GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE CLAIMS IN THE GDR RESULTING FROM THE SEIZURE OF LUXEMBOURG

PROPERTY WHEN THE COMMUNISTS TOOK POWER. MERTZ SAID FISCHER CONTENDED THAT GDR GOVERNMENT HAS SPENT SO MUCH MONEY MAINTAINING THE PROPERTY DURING THE PAST 30 YEARS THAT ANY RESIDUAL CLAIM THAT THE GOL OR PRIVATE LUXEMBOURGERS MIGHT HAVE IS INVALID.

4. LUXEMBOURGERS WERE IMPRESSED BY FISCHER'S OBVIOUS INTELLIGENCE AND TOUGHNESS BUT WERE DISAPPOINTED AT WHAT THEY DESCRIBED AS HIS TOTAL INFLEXIBILITY. ACCORDING TO MERTZ, THE VISIT HAS DONE NOTHING TO IMPROVE IN ANY SIGNIFICANT WAY GDR-LUXEMBOURG RELATIONS. LOWENSTEIN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, TRAVEL REPORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978LUXEMB00570  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
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